



Donald A. Dennison

ASSOCIATE

✉ ddennison@mblawfirm.com

☎ (973) 243-7985

Overview

Dedicated Elder Law Attorney Focused on Guardianships, Medicaid Planning, and Special Needs Advocacy

Donald A. Dennison is an associate in the firm's Elder Law Practice Group, where he specializes in complex Medicaid and asset preservation planning, as well as Nursing Home and probate litigation. In addition, Donald has extensive experience helping members of the LGBTQ+ community address the legal issues that arise from aging and disabilities.

Donald is passionate about protecting the rights of the elderly and disabled, and frequently lectures on the subject. For several years he served as a panelist at the annual New Jersey Elder Law Retreat, and in 2021 and 2022, he delivered the retreat's Elder and Disability Case Law Update. Donald also serves on the Executive Council for the First Congregational Church of Montclair, most recently as Assistant Treasurer for the June 2022 to June 2024 term. In 2025 and 2026, he has been named to the New Jersey Super Lawyers "Rising Star" list.*

Prior to joining the firm, Donald was an associate in the New Jersey elder and disability law firm Fink Rosner Ershow-Levenberg Marinaro, LLC.

Donald earned his J.D. from Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center, and his B.A. from Kings College in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. While in law school, Donald was active in several pro bono projects, including the Elder and Disability Law Project which served the local community.

In his personal life, Donald enjoys fly-fishing and hiking throughout the Northeast, painting, and spending time with his two nieces, and his dog Chloe.

*See [Award Information and Methodology](#). No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

Professional Affiliations

- New Jersey State Bar Association
- Irish-American Bar Association of New York
- Union County Bar Association
- NJSBA Elder and Disability Law Section – Executive Committee Member
- NJSBA LGBTQ+ Rights Division
- NJSBA Young Lawyers Division (YLD)

- NJSBA YLD Mentoring Program – Volunteer Mentor

Awards

Rising Stars list by New Jersey Super Lawyers, 2025-2026

Publications

["What is a life care contract for assisted living? The details explained."](#) Care.com, April 17, 2026.

["Your Child is Turning 18 – Now What? A Special Needs Parent's Guide."](#) Exceptional Parent, March 2026.

["Selection Process"](#) *Super Lawyers*, 2024

["Will a trust protect assets from a nursing home?"](#) *NJ Money Help*, January 2024

"Plan Today for Tomorrow" *Suburban Essex, Best of Essex*, September 2023

["Medicaid Benefits and Eligibility at the End of the PHE"](#) *106.7 Lite FM*, April 2023

["No small matter: Business owners can face unique planning challenges, elder law expert says"](#) *ROI-NJ*, January 11, 2023

Areas of Practice

- [Elder Law](#)
- [Special Needs](#)
- [Trusts & Estates](#)

Admission

- New Jersey
- United States District Court District of New Jersey

Education

- Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center, J.D.
- Kings College, B.A.

Podcasts

[Nina Del Rio on 106.7 Lite FM radio show: "Medicaid Benefits and Eligibility at the End of the PHE," April 2, 2023.](#)

Speaking Engagements

Mandelbaum Barrett PC's 3rd Annual Elder Law Day, May 19, 2026.

Mandelbaum Barrett PC's 2nd Annual Elder Law Day – Planning for Families with Special Needs Children, May 7, 2025.

Mandelbaum Barrett PC's 1st Annual Elder Law Day, March 22, 2024.

Hot Topics in Elder Law Speaker Series: *"Legacies Instead of Litigation – Tips to Stay Out of Court for the Aging Population,"* April 18, 2023.

Hot Topics in Elder Law Speaker Series: *"Myths and Misconceptions in Estate and Medicaid Planning,"* March 8, 2023.

First Congregational Church of Montclair: *"A Conversation on Elder Law for All Generations,"* February 19, 2023.

NJICLE Annual Elder and Disability Law Symposium: *"Case Law and Legislative Updates,"* December 8, 2022.

New Jersey State Bar Association's 24th annual Elder and Disability Law Retreat: *"Case Law Update,"* March 24, 2022.

LGBTQIA+ Lunch & Learn to the Metro YMCA of the Oranges, March 23, 2022.

Passaic County Bar Association: *"Leaving Legacies Instead of Litigation: Tips to Stay Out of Court for the Aging Population,"* February 23, 2022.